

## THE WEATHER:

Partly cloudy and colder today; tomorrow fair with rising temperature. Highest temperature yesterday, 59; lowest, 47. Report on page 13.

## The Washington Herald

## SOCIETY PAGE

Daily and Sunday contains news, chatty items of the Capital's social set together with interesting gossip on doings in New York.

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TWO CENTS

## FRANCE SEEKS U. S. ATTITUDE ON 'IRON HAND'

Viviani's Mission to Win America's Support for Pressure on Huns.

## PLANS FIRM POLICY ON RHINE BY MAY 1

Separate Peace Proposed Here May Menace Allies, Simonds Believes

By FRANK H. SIMONDS.

Last Sunday I discussed at length the latest phases of the Viviani mission. But with the former French premier in Washington and the conversations with our State Department already begun, there is a precise and specific circumstance which calls for brief comment. In addition to all other questions of high policy, M. Viviani has come here to inquire as to American policy and purpose with respect to the German situation.

Despite all optimistic and euphemistic language the solemn fact is that Europe remains at war. Not only is a real war taking place between Greek and Turk, not only are there disorders in Germany and gathering signs of a new Bolshevik offensive, but the situation between France and Germany is more acute than anything that has existed since the close of hostilities in the world war and within a very short time action must follow.

Purpose of Viviani.

What M. Viviani must want to know, beyond all else, is what the United States will think officially, what it may do officially, if French troops proceed, as they are almost bound to proceed now, to occupy very large areas of Germany and to seek that form of reparation which seems alone possible, namely the levying of contributions, the seizure of such wealth as is movable.

I do not think the supreme critical condition of affairs in Europe has yet been generally accepted in the United States. We are now, as we were in 1914, measurably deceived by the long series of crises which fill the history from the armistice of Rethondes to the recent conference of London. In 1914 everyone believed war was impossible because war had been avoided as long as possible.

But in 1921 as in 1914 a terrible anxiety of heart hangs between now and May 1. There shall be a total change in German policy and in German method, the date which sees the end of the first period in the application of the treaty of Versailles, will stand for a drastic action on the part of France supported at least in some measure by Italy, Britain and Belgium. We shall see a resumption of the invasion of Germany by German troops, accompanied by the brilliant generals of the last period of the war, by Degoutte, by Mangin, by Debeney.

Now M. Viviani would like to know, every Frenchman would like to know, what the United States will do in this new situation, will stand with her recent associates or undertake the role of champion of Germany. Unquestionably just as long as Germany suspects that the United States will stand neutral upon allied action, she will continue to invite that action by refusing to meet allied demands or comply with the requirements of the treaty of Versailles. She has already succeeded in getting the German government to demand that the United States be held to the bill delivered at Paris in 1919, she hopes to escape from other billions now.

In a degree we are now just where we were between 1914 and 1917 in the world war. President Harding and his advisors will decide whether they intend to stand with their associates of the war, whether they intend to stand by the signatures of their representatives at Paris, not to the league of nations, but to the league of nations, whether they intend to remain neutral, or whether they contemplate changing position and supporting Germany in her resistance to the nation she has plundered and devastated.

Critical for Germany.

If we stand with our allies of the past; if President Harding or Secretary Hughes in a frank statement indicates that the United States has no intention of doing anything affirmatively to assist the German side, but that the German side, on the other hand, believes that the United States is responsible for the war and is bound to pay, something may be done to prevent a new war, because Germany may be driven by the show of solidarity between America and Germany's conquerors to back down from her present defiant attitude. But, by contrast, if Germany does not see a reasonable utterance will certainly remove the last obstacle to French action and the action will come swiftly and strike hard.

On the other hand, if America remains noncommittal, but leaves M. Viviani to understand that she shall do nothing to help, even by word or deed, the action will come with almost equal swiftness and something may be lost on the French side, but since our neutrality would certainly encourage British opposition to speedy and drastic action.

I shall not canvass the consequences of support of Germany, because I am satisfied that this lies

## Bomber Known, All Cities to Get His Description

Wall Street Wagon Driver Identified Through Horse's Shoes.

NEW YORK, March 31.—Description of the man alleged to have planted the bomb in the Wall Street explosion was mailed to the authorities of every city in the United States tonight.

He is described as being five and one-half feet tall, slightly under middle age and with prominent cheek bones.

He is believed to have been the driver of the dilapidated wagon containing the bomb, which was stopped in front of the subterranean building at noon, September 16. He is said to have been traced through the horse shoes and bits of harness. The Department of Justice is said to know his name and he is said to have been identified with anarchist organizations.

When the board of estimates meets tomorrow, it is believed the bomb plot reward will be increased from \$10,000 to \$50,000. In the opinion of Flynn and other operatives, the original amount was too small to tempt persons to risk giving information.

## GERMANY FREES YANKS WHO TRIED TO GET BERGDOLL

Release Officially Is Announced in Message to General at Coblenz.

Germany has released Charles Naef and Frank Zimmer, the American soldiers who attempted to kidnap Grover Cleveland Bergdall, millionaire Philadelphia draft dodger, at large in Germany.

Announcement of the releases was made by Secretary of War Weeks, whose information was based on the following telegram from Maj. Gen. Henry Allen, at Coblenz, in charge of the American army of occupation on the Rhine.

"I informed you today by telephone communication from the Berlin foreign office directs him to personally notify me that the sentences of Naef and Zimmer have been remitted pending good behavior and that they will be released from confinement at once. They will probably arrive at Coblenz tomorrow."

Justifies Conviction. The German government evidently believes that the men were justly convicted and is merely asking that they do not repeat the offense or similar offenses in Germany. They were convicted at Mosbach, Baden, the attempt to kidnap having been made at Ehrsbach, in that state. The principal charge against them was that they "usurped authority in not asking the co-operation of the Baden police."

It appears from the record that the United States government did not make any appeal to the German government as the answer was given personally to General Allen, the only authority with which Germany could deal officially, as Germany agreed to the occupation of Coblenz by the American army.

## FIVE NEGROES HELD IN GEORGIA SLAYINGS

COVINGTON, Ga., March 31.—Five negroes—two men and three women—were taken to Atlanta today where they will be jailed as material witnesses in the peonage charges against John Williams, wealthy planter of Jasper County, who is held in Atlanta on a charge of murder.

The negroes were rounded up by a squad of United States deputy marshals on the "death farm." One of the negroes, Allen Manning, is the wife of Clyde Manning, who is also in jail in Atlanta. Manning confessed he killed, at the direction of Williams, eleven negro workmen on the plantation.

"I've cooked for the Williams' for more than nine years and I've always been treated all right," said Manning's wife, "but I guess some of the colored boys were treated bad somewhere."

## Woman Voter Assails Nonpartisan League

DEVILS LAKE, N. Dak., March 31.—A woman started agitation late today in the convention of the Independent Voters' Association meeting here to force the Nonpartisan League out of North Dakota by recalling State officials who are members of the league.

Mrs. Mary Strand, a delegate, took the floor and saying she was not satisfied with the management of the association and urged reorganization.

## G. O. P. SEEKING MEANS TO GET BACK P. O. JOBS

Say Wilson's Order Made Plums Permanent for Democrats.

WANT ALL CHOSEN BY CIVIL SERVICE

Would Force Appointees to Resign and Take Examinations.

By MARK SULLIVAN.

President Harding shortly will make a decision which will largely determine the fate of fully nine-tenths of the party leaders and workers who are seeking patronage. He is just now getting the opinion of the party leaders in Congress and elsewhere, and also a thorough report on the situation as it exists.

The nature of this decision can only be understood by close examination of the law as it now stands. Former President Wilson, in 1917, put all of the first, second and third class postmasters under the Civil Service. The Democrats, therefore, say that any action which President Harding may take will be antagonistic to Civil Service principles.

G. O. P. Sees "Trick" Working. As Senator Hitchcock expressed it, "This reform by Mr. Wilson was a reform pledged to the people of the United States. If it is carried out by the incoming administration it will be a reform permanently established in this country."

Senator Lodge expressed it, "The order was very cunningly drawn." The way the Republicans justify their charge is this: "Mr. Wilson came into office March 4, 1913. During the following four years, of course, the terms of all these postmasters expired automatically. The Republicans charge that a large number of crack cavalry units, as it was never demobilized to the 20,000 men provided for in the Trianon treaty."

President Masaryk yesterday sent an ultimatum to the Hungarian government saying that the restoration of the Hapsburgs would be regarded as a casus belli by Czechoslovakia.

Mobilization Ordered.

The Belgrade government has instructed the general staff to order a mobilization along the Jugo-Slav-Hungarian frontier and 20,000 Serbian troops are reported to be marching along the Drave River.

Two divisions of Roumanian cavalry are concentrated in the Arad and Temesvar regions, where the principal railway entry points into Hungary are located. Several regiments of Bohemian troops have been ordered to Gran, the nearest point to Budapest, by the Czechoslovakian government. Representatives of the little republics at Paris announce that they are prepared to prevent the restoration of former Emperor Charles and his 8-year-old son Otto, or any member of the Hapsburg dynasty by force.

The Italian Ambassador to France called on Premier Briand today. He received the assurance that the French government does not support Charles. Immediately afterwards the foreign office sent statements to all French representatives abroad, including Ambassador Jusserand at Washington, announcing France's solidarity with the allies against the return of the Hapsburgs.

Marching on Budapest.

The American mission at Vienna telephoned Paris today that the sole passenger on a train which arrived at Vienna from Steinsamanger was a man named Otto.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOURTEEN.

## Barracks Blown Up, 18 Policemen Reported Killed

Two out of Twenty in Rosscarbery Garrison Escape With Lives.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald and Chicago Tribune.) DUBLIN, March 31.—The Rosscarbery police barracks, north of Cork, were blown up this morning during an attack by a large civilian force, according to a dispatch received at Dublin Castle today.

Six police were reported killed and twelve seriously wounded. Later reports of unofficial nature declared loss of life among the attacked garrison was much heavier than at first thought and said that only two police of the garrison of twenty escaped the burning building.

The front wall was blown off the Rosscarbery barracks early in the attack, which was launched at 2 o'clock, and almost immediately the building burst into flames. The police defended their position until driven out by the fire.

While they were bombing, bombs leading into the town the barracks were surrounded by military reinforcements and a battle ensued. It is reported they escaped with light casualties. According to Dublin Castle there have been 1,000 casualties in Ireland during the last three months. It is stated that 400 persons were killed in this period.

## CHARLES LEADING 30,000 SOLDIERS TO SEIZE THRONE

Former Emperor Decries Dictatorship; Is Marching on Budapest.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald and Chicago Tribune.) By HENRY WALES.

PARIS, March 31.—From official sources I learn that former Emperor Charles today decried a military dictatorship in Steinsamanger and is prepared to march on Budapest at the head of an army to seize the Hungarian throne by force.

The Hungarian army numbers more than 100,000 troops, including a large number of crack cavalry units, as it was never demobilized to the 20,000 men provided for in the Trianon treaty.

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## WALLACE URGES TARIFF BAR ON FARM PRODUCE

Home Agriculture Needs Protection From Foreign Competition.

FREIGHT RATES ACT AS DIFFERENTIALS

Relief in Present Situation Deemed Essential to Aid Markets.

Practically all agricultural products should at once be given adequate protection against foreign competition, and the most effective way to do this is to add to any tariff rates which may be imposed now, an amount equal to the extra freight charges in getting products to the consuming centers.

A statement to this effect was issued yesterday by Secretary of Agriculture Henry C. Wallace, who expressed the belief that the proposed emergency would be of some relief in the present situation, directly and indirectly.

Freight Rates Factor.

"We have not considered as we must the heavy burdens imposed upon producers by the increased freight rates and the large increase in other marketing charges," said the Secretary. "These increased rates are a differential against our producers benefiting foreign competitors. Take corn, for example. The freight on corn from Omaha to Chicago is now 5.32 cents greater than it was in 1913, an increase of 86 per cent, and from Chicago to New York the rate is almost 23 cents a bushel. The Argentine grower can lay his corn down on our Eastern coast for about one-third of the shipping cost imposed upon our Western corn grower. It is true that imports have not been large, but every cargo of Argentine corn which reaches our coast is used to depress prices."

"The increased freight and other marketing charges on wheat are practically the same as on corn," the Secretary said. "On wheat the items are of even more importance because of the larger amount exported. The freight rate on cotton from Memphis to New York is 12 cents a bale greater than in 1913. On livestock from the producing sections to the East the rates are very nearly double what they were before the war. The same burden has been imposed on potatoes, rice, tobacco, fruits and all other farm products."

Duties Need Study.

"There is talk of establishing the old import duties on farm products. In many cases these duties would not equal the cost of marketing. The farmer would be forced to study this whole national situation, the better it is going to be for all of us. It is important to the industrial sections that our agriculture put upon a thoroughly sound foundation."

"This nation cannot afford to permit the breaking down of its agriculture, even if for a time we can buy food and farm products cheaper from someone else. Just now we have a great surplus because of large crops and reduced consumption, but this condition will not continue. Our population is growing. Decreased production might mean prohibitively high prices within a few years."

Secretary Wallace said that during the next six months the administration would either consciously or unconsciously lay the foundation for a national policy, and that it was his duty to study what is done during that period in what we shall call a self-sustaining, independent, self-reliant nation agriculturally, industrially and politically, to see whether we shall continue to exploit our agricultural resources for the benefit of our industrial and commercial life."

Nations which used to buy most of our surplus, he said, are in a bad condition, need their money and are making desperate efforts to grow their own food. Consequently they are buying as little as possible from us, and are trying to grow their own food.

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## TELL OF RAILWAY NEEDS



R. M. Barton, chairman of the United States Railroad Labor Board (on right), and Edward E. Clark of the Interstate Commerce Commission are pictured here as they left the Executive offices following a long conference with President Harding yesterday. The men were summoned by the President for a discussion relative to the railroad situation.

## TRUTH OF IRISH REPORT DENIED BY BRITISH EMBASSY

Says Charges of Terrorism and Devastation Are False.

The truth of the findings of the American Commission on Conditions in Ireland, especially charges of terrorism and devastation by British crown troops, was categorically denied yesterday in a statement by the British Embassy.

R. L. Cragie, first secretary of the British Embassy, said the statement had been prepared in collaboration with the British Foreign Office and approved by it.

Says Only One Side Told. "We felt," he said, "that it was time to answer some of these indiscriminate charges. Only one side of it has been put before the American public."

The statement in part follows: "The report of the American Commission on Conditions in Ireland is entitled to exactly the amount of weight which should be given to any judgment based entirely upon the evidence of ex parte statements. It is biased and wholly misleading both as to its general conclusions and in the statements it contains in matters of detail."

"The report of the committee lays stress on so-called reprisals and ignores the fact that even when the Irish propagandists suggested in September, 1920, that reprisals were taking place, 92 policemen, 12 soldiers and 23 civilians had been murdered in cold blood, and 129 policemen, 56 soldiers and 74 civilians wounded, in most cases without a chance of defending themselves."

By the same date 1,200 buildings had been burnt and wholly destroyed. "That the crown forces, under the leadership of the British government, have been ordered, encouraged or condoned by the British government is absolutely false."

"There has been no indiscriminate killing. Men have been shot through falling to help when challenged by sentries, and innocent persons, including women and children, have suffered death or wounds in the course of armed conflict, resulting from unprovoked attacks made by Sinn Feiners upon forces of the crown in crowded streets. Apart from these, and similar inadvertent casualties, the record of the crown forces is absolutely clean so far as women and children are concerned. Reports of torturing prisoners have been completely disproved."

Reports Hits Army Excesses. In the 30,000 word report made public yesterday by the unofficial committee of 100 investigating the Irish question, moral responsibility for the present disorders in Ireland is placed upon the British government, declaring the "imperial British army in Ireland has been guilty of proved excesses, not incomparable in degree and kind with those alleged by the Bryce report on Belgian atrocities to have been committed by the German army."

The report covers the examination of witnesses at public hearings held by the commission in Washington in November, December and January, and announces that the commission will continue its inquiry. It declares the commission was "under the disadvantage of lacking the official British side of the case."

## HARDING MAKES FIRST MOVE TO AID RAILROADS

President Confers With I. C. C. and Labor Men on Present Crisis.

MAY SEND MESSAGE TO NEXT CONGRESS

Reduction in Rates and Wages Among Topics at Meeting.

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING.

As his first move in his endeavor to alleviate the critical financial condition of the railroads President Harding conferred yesterday for more than two hours with Chairman Clark of the Interstate Commerce Commission and Chairman Barton of the Railway Labor Board.

The discussion revolved around the effect of the business depression upon volume of transportation, operating expenses of the carriers and feasible economies and the proposed reduction of wages and of freight rates. Chairman Clark informed the President that any further increase of rates would only stifle commerce without producing additional revenue, and that a reduction of rates is out of the question until operating expenses are curtailed.

Roads May Collapse.

A high official of the administration declared yesterday that in the event business did not improve generally within the next six months, a great many railroads would be in the hands of receivers by July 1, which would be equivalent to government operation.

The conference closed without plans for other meetings of the same character, and nothing in the way of joint action by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Railroad Labor Board to meet the existing situation is contemplated.

The information obtained by the President may be utilized by him in his message to Congress at the beginning of the extraordinary session which he has called for April 11. It has not been definitely settled, however, that the railroad problem will be one of the matters to which the President will direct the attention of Congress. If it should be determined that additional legislation is necessary to provide the necessary relief, the railroad situation will be dealt with directly and recommendations will be submitted to Congress.

Prompt Action Urged.

Prompt action by the Railroad Labor Board on the cases now pending before it and in which the railroad labor is asking permission to offset economies in expenditures for wages, it is believed, would go far toward permitting a readjustment that would pave the way for the demanded reduction in freight rates and passenger fares.

Railroad executives believe there should be a reduction in freight rates—many hold the belief that lower rates would bring in greater revenues than the prevailing rate, even at a tonnage approaching a normal figure.

Unions Demand Voice.

CHICAGO, March 31.—President Harding today was urged by union leaders to "use his executive influence to bring about a conference" between representatives of all railroads of the country and their employees in an effort to dispose of all pending disputes now affecting transportation.

The proposal was made in a telegram sent to the President, signed by B. M. Jewell, president of the United States Railroad Workers' Union, and J. E. Clark, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to Washington for a conference on the railway situation.

"Two million railroad workers read the telegram," are vitally interested in your efforts to effect a solution of the railroad problem. Obviously no policy or program that is unacceptable to them will be productive of the much-desired result of co-operation, and accordingly, therefore, we urge respectfully that we be given a voice in the determination of what is to be done."

The telegram asserted that settlement of the controversies over national working agreements and wages constitutes the "first essential to peace and orderly progress in the transportation industry."

## Elizabeth Jordan

has contributed a peach of a Blue Ribbon Fiction classic to the Blue Ribbon section of next Sunday's Herald. She calls it—

"Arabella Dart—Man-Hater"

Other Splendid BLUE RIBBON short stories in

Sunday's Herald

Include Vingie E. Roe's romantic tale with the queer title—"Principle and True Love," an article on the work of the Government Hospital for the Insane; another about skirts and their length—and half a dozen other Blue Ribbon hits.

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